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52

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/753,701	01/08/2004	Keith McIlhany	2003P01398US01	8767

7590 04/04/2005

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

RAPP, CHAD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2125

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/753,701

Applicant(s)

MCILHANY ET AL.

Examiner

Chad Rapp

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-13, 19 and 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-6, 8, 14, 16-18 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 7 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 08 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2125

1. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.
2. Claim 9 is canceled by amendment filed on 01/10/05.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 10-13 and 19-20 are allowable over the cited prior art based on the amendment filed on 01/10/05.
4. Claims 2, 7 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dudley in view of "Chapter 4 Filed Equipment Panel Hardware"(herein after referred to as "FEPH").

Dudley teaches the claimed invention(claim1) substantially as claimed including a method of operating a building control system comprising:

- a. Storing data regarding the received user generated event at the field panel is taught as data entry device (field panel) is operative to store comfort level(paragraph [0006]).

Dudley teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 1, however, Dudley does not teach: receiving a user generated event at a field panel of the building control system and transmitting the stored data regarding the received user event at the field panel to a workstation.

FEPH teaches:

a. Receiving a user generated event at a field panel of the building control system is taught as commands from operator's workstation can download new parameters to adjust set points or parameters of equipment(page 4-2);

b. Transmitting the stored data regarding the received user event at the field panel to a workstation is taught as the smart filed panels respond to central/island stations or work stations requests for equipment operating data and status(page 4-2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time then invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Dudley with the teachings of FEPH because the smart filed device can replace the data entry device because the field device has more I/O capabilities. The smart filed device is an advanced type of data entry device for the building systems and it controls various actuators of an HVAC.

As to claim 3, Dudley teaches wherein the step of storing data regarding the user generated events at the field panel includes temporarily storing data regarding the user generated events at the field panel is taught as when the network computer receives information the value of T Input K is set to zero(paragraph [0020]).

As to claim 4, Dudley teaches wherein the user generated events are temporarily stored in a buffer is taught as the stored data of T Input K 's (buffer) are temporarily stored because once the data is sent it is reset(paragraph [0020]).

As to claim 5, FEPH teaches wherein the step of accepting a user generated event at a field panel of the building control system includes accepting a user generated event at a field panel via a user interface of the field panel is taught as a communication interface of the smart field panel(page 4-2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time then invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Dudley with the teachings of FEPH because the smart filed device can replace the data entry device because the field device has more I/O capabilities. The smart filed device is an advanced type of data entry device for the building systems and it controls various actuators of an HVAC.

As to claim 6, Dudley teaches appending identification data to the stored data regarding the received user event at the field panel is taught as the office index value, which is the K in the data stored as T Input K([0019]).

As to claim 8, Dudley teaches modifying a field panel database of the field panel with regard to the received user generated event is taught as once the data is input the memory area of T Input K changes, before it was set to zero. Then it is changed again when the data is sent out and it resets([0018], [0019] and [0020]).

As to claim 21, FEPH teaches further comprising a step of executing at the filed panel a control operation for a building system actuator is taught as a smart filed panel that generates commands to control operating devices(page 4-2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time then invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Dudley with the teachings of FEPH because the smart filed device can replace the data entry device because the field device has more I/O

Art Unit: 2125

capabilities. The smart filed device is an advanced type of data entry device for the building systems and it controls various actuators of an HVAC.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 14, 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dudley in view of “Chapter 4 Filed Equipment Panel Hardware”(herein after referred to as “FEPH”).

Dudley teaches the claimed invention (claim 14) substantially as claimed including a building control system comprising:

a. Store data regarding the user generated field panel event is taught as data entry device (field panel) is operative to store comfort level(paragraph [0006]);

b. Append identification data to the stored data regarding the user generated field panel event is taught as the office index value, which is the K in the data stored as T Input K([0019]).

Dudley teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 14, however, Dudley does not teach: a workstation, a field panel in communication with the workstation, the filed panel including an I/O device connected to communicate with at

Art Unit: 2125

least one of a group consisting of a building control system actuator and a building control system sensor, the field panel operative to receive a user generated field panel event and forward the data regarding the user generated field panel event and appended identification data to the workstation

FEPH teaches:

- a. A workstation is taught as a central station or work station(page 4-2);
- b. A field panel in communication with the workstation is taught as smart field panel communicates with central station or workstation(page 4-2);
- c. The filed panel including an I/O device connected to communicate with at least one of a group consisting of a building control system actuator and a building control system sensor is taught as smart filed panel generates commands to control operating devices such as valves, dampers, motors and relays(page 4-2 and figure 4-2);
- d. The field panel operative to receive a user generated field panel event is taught as commands from operator's workstation can download new parameters to adjust set points or parameters of equipment(page 4-2);
- e. Forward the data regarding the user generated field panel event and appended identification data to the workstation is taught as the smart filed panels respond to central/island stations or work stations requests for equipment operating data and status(page 4-2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time then invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Dudley with the teachings of FEPH because the smart filed device can replace the data entry device because the field device has more I/O

Art Unit: 2125

capabilities. The smart filed device is an advanced type of data entry device for the building systems and it controls various actuators of an HVAC.

As to claim 16, Dudley teaches wherein the field panel is further operative to temporarily store data regarding the user generated field panel event is taught as when the network computer receives information the value of T Input K is set to zero(paragraph [0020]).

As to claim 17, Dudley teaches wherein the data regarding the user generated field panel event is temporarily stored in a buffer is taught as the stored data of T Input K 's (buffer) are temporarily stored because once the data is sent it is reset(paragraph [0020]).

As to claim 18, Dudley teaches wherein the field panel is further operative to erase the buffer after forwarding the data regarding the user generated field panel event and appended identification data to the workstation is taught as the stored data of T Input K 's (buffer) are temporarily stored because once the data is sent it is reset and is taught as the stored data of T Input K 's (buffer) are temporarily stored because once the data is sent it is reset (paragraph [0020]).

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1, 14 and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

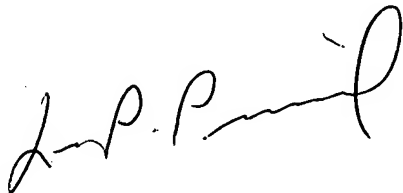
Conclusion

Art Unit: 2125

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Rapp whose telephone number is (571)272-3752. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 11:00-7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (571)272-3749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chad Rapp
Examiner
Art Unit 2125

cjr

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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